

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 are now pending in the present application. Claims 1-37 have been amended and claims 38-49 have been added. Claim 1 is independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement has been filed concurrently with the filing of the present Amendment. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial the PTO-1449 form attached thereto and forward a copy with the next Office Communication in order to indicate consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement.

Objection to the Drawings

FIG. 1 stands objected to since not designated by a legend such as "PRIOR ART." In addition, the drawings stand objected to by the Draftsperson as indicated on the PTO-948 Form.

As the Examiner will note, eight (8) sheets of corrected formal drawings are attached hereto for the Examiner's consideration. FIG. 1 has been amended to include the legend "PRIOR ART" and the figures have also been amended to address the objection from the Draftsperson.

Favorable consideration of the corrected formal drawings are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification

The specification stands objected to since the Abstract of the Disclosure has not been provided on a separate sheet. As the Examiner will note, an Abstract of the Disclosure is attached to the present Amendment. The Abstract of the Disclosure has been provided on a separate sheet as required by the Examiner and has been amended to eliminate legal phraseology.

Objection of the Claims

Claims 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 20, 32 and 34 stand objected to for minor informalities. As the Examiner will note, the claims have been carefully reviewed and revised taking into consideration the specific deficiencies pointed out by the Examiner.

In view of above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now in proper form. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objection are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As the Examiner will note, the claims have been carefully reviewed and revised, taking into consideration the specific deficiencies pointed out by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now definite and clear. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph are respectfully requested.

Additional Claims

Additional claims 38-49 have been added for the Examiner's consideration. As the Examiner will note, claims 38-49 are directed to subject matter which has been removed from the original claims in order to address the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 38-49 are allowable due to their dependence upon allowable independent claim 1, as well as due to the additional limitations recited in these claims.

Favorable consideration and allowance of additional claims 38-49 are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-37 have been indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. As mentioned above, the claim objection and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second

paragraph have been overcome. Accordingly, claims 1-37 should now be in condition for allowance. In addition, claims 38-49 which depend, either directly or indirectly on independent claim 1, should also be in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that all of the claims in the present application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance of the above-identified application are therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining references cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but merely to show the state-of-the-art, no further comments are deemed necessary with respect thereto.

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

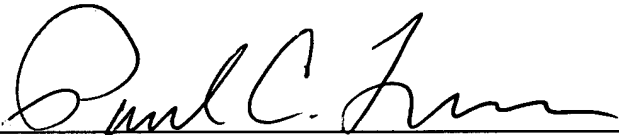
Applicant respectfully petitions under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and § 1.17 for a one-month extension of time in which to respond to the Examiner's Office Action. The Extension of Time Fee in the amount of **\$110.00** is attached hereto.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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For

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Attachment(s)

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus is provided for creating a pattern on a workpiece sensitive to radiation, such as a photomask, a display panel or a microoptical device. The apparatus includes a radiation source and a spatial modulator (SLM) having a multitude of modulating elements (pixels). It further includes an electronic data processing and delivery system feeding drive signals to the modulator, a precision mechanical system for moving said workpiece and an electronic control system coordinating the movement of the workpiece, the feeding of the signals to the modulator and the intensity of the radiation, so that said pattern is stitched together from the partial images created by the sequence of partial patterns. The drive signals can set a modulating element to a number of states larger than two.